

BENTON CONSOLIDATED HIGH SCHOOL
Benton, Illinois 62812
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
November 18, 2025

The Board of Education of the Benton Consolidated High School District #103 met in Regular Session on Tuesday, November 18, 2025 at 5:30 P.M. in the District Board Room. President, Mark Minor called the meeting to order.

Shane Garner opened in prayer and Mitch Bennett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present: Mark Minor, President; Marci Glover, Secretary; Shane Cockrum, Jay Copple, Robin LaBuwi, Mitch Bennett and Stacia Sloan.

Others present: Benjamin Johnson, Superintendent; Sean Docherty, Principal; Shane Garner, Athletic Director; Ron Giacone, Board Attorney; Kenise Head, Recording Secretary; Kathy Thomas, Director of Food Pantry; Cathy Garavalia; Mary Ann Supancic and Amy Kolodziej, BEA Representatives.

4. (CLOSED) EXECUTIVE SESSION

4.1 Appointment/Compensation/Discipline/Performance of Personnel

4.2 Collective Bargaining

4.3 Student Discipline

Jay Copple made the motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the Appointment, Compensation, Discipline, and Performance of Personnel, Collective Bargaining and Student Discipline. Shane Cockrum seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

The Board; Benjamin Johnson, Superintendent; Ron Giacone, Board Attorney; and Kenise Head, Recording Secretary entered into an Executive Session in the executive board room at 5:32 P.M.

Open Session - The Board reconvened in an Open Session at 5:48 P.M. Marci Glover, Secretary called the roll. Answering present: Mark Minor – yes, Shane Cockrum – yes, Jay Copple – yes, Stacia Sloan – yes, Robin LaBuwi – yes, Mitch Bennett – yes and Marci Glover – yes.

Others present: Benjamin Johnson, Superintendent; Sean Docherty, Principal; Shane Garner, Athletic Director; Ron Giacone, Board Attorney; Kenise Head, Recording Secretary; Kathy Thomas, Director of Food Pantry; Cathy Garavalia; Mary Ann Supancic and Amy Kolodziej, BEA Representatives.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

**5.1 Approve Minutes: Regular Board Meeting Minutes, October 23, 2025
Executive Board Meeting Minutes, October 23, 2025**

5.2 Approve Financial Report (October 2025)

5.3 Approve Payment of Bills (October 2025)

**5.4 Approve Madrigals Set Crew on Sunday, November 23, 2025 2:00-5:00 PM and
Rehearsal on Sunday, November 30, 2025 2:00-5:00 PM**

5.5 Approve 1st Reading of Board Policy Update 2:70E

Regular Board Meeting – page 2
November 18, 2025

5.6 Approve 1st Reading of Board Policy Updates Issue 120
5.7 Approve Timber View Wellness Center MOU

Robin LaBuwi made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, board members voted as follows: Shane Cockrum – yes, Mitch Bennett – yes, Marci Glover – yes, Robin LaBuwi – yes, Jay Copple – yes, Stacia Sloan – yes and Mark Minor – yes. Motion carried.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REMARKS

Mr. Johnson commented on the following:

- Project Updates and Facility Improvements/Plans
- Annual Summative Designation of “Commendable” for 2025

Mr. Docherty and Mr. Miller provided written reports.

Mr. Garner shared a monthly athletic newsletter to staff and board members emails.

7. COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

- Cathy Garavalia and Kathy Thomas, Director of Local Food Pantry, presented information on food insecurity with children and the services provided by the food pantry.

8. OLD BUSINESS

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Assignment of Personnel Shane Cockrum made a motion to approve the leave request from Jennie Gibbs as presented. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

Jay Copple made a motion to approve Kelcie Bayless as a Volunteer Assistant with the 2026 Spring Musical as needed. Mitch Bennett seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

Jay Copple made a motion to approve Brian Blades as a Volunteer Assistant for Boys and Girls Wrestling for the 2025-26 SY. Robin LaBuwi seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

Robin LaBuwi made a motion to approve Layne Tindle as a Volunteer Assistant Speech Coach for the 2025-26 SY. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

Shane Cockrum made a motion to approve Austin McPheron as a Volunteer Assistant Baseball Coach for the 2025-26 SY. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

Regular Board Meeting – page 3
November 18, 2025

Robin LaBuwi made a motion to approve Melanie Webb as a Volunteer Assistant Cheer Coach for the 2025-26 SY. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

9.2 Review/Approve Posting of Open Positions Jay Copple made a motion to approve the posting of Girls Wrestling Assistant Coach for the 2025-26 SY. Mitch Bennett seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

9.3 Review/Accept Annual Financial Report Robin LaBuwi made a motion to accept the FY25 Annual Financial Report as presented. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

9.4 Set/Approve Tax Hearing Date and Adopt Tentative Levies Robin LaBuwi made a motion to approve the Resolution Adopting Proposed Aggregate Tax Levy for the Year 2025 and set the hearing for December 18, 2025 at 5:15 P.M. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried. A copy of this Resolution has been attached to and made a part of these minutes.

9.5 Review/Approve Student Graduation Proposal Shane Cockrum made a motion to approve the Student Graduation Proposal as presented. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

9.6 Review/Approve Proposal to Retire Courtney Smith's Basketball Jersey Shane Cockrum made a motion to approve the Retirement of Courtney Smith's basketball jersey as presented. Stacia Sloan seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members voted yes. Motion carried.

10. BOARD OF EDUCATION REMARKS

11. ADJOURNMENT Jay Copple made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:28 P.M. Stacia Sloan seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.


BOARD PRESIDENT


BOARD SECRETARY